



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Sue Schwartz
Phone: 373-2149

***SOUTH ELM STREET MASTER PLANNING PROCESS NEARS COMPLETION
City to Share Findings on Redevelopment of Area***

GREENSBORO, NC (February 8, 2006) – The City of Greensboro's Housing & Community Development Department will hold a final round of public information meetings regarding the creation of a master plan for the South Elm Street Brownfield Redevelopment project on Wednesday, February 15 at the Regency Room, 203 South Elm Street, in downtown Greensboro from noon to 1:30 p.m. and again from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The meetings will allow residents to hear from project consultants Chan Krieger & Associates on the goals initially set forth by community members and project stakeholders.

Chan Krieger & Associates will reveal their findings on the types of redevelopment planned for the area, economic impacts of the project, environmental clean-up, and street improvement plans. The meetings mark the culmination of a six-month planning process for the approximately 10-acre site on South Elm Street that borders the downtown neighborhoods of Ole Asheboro, Arlington Park, Southside and Warnersville.

The goals of the redevelopment project are to enhance this gateway to the center city, restore economic use and employment opportunities, address environmental issues, support the areas cultural heritage, improve streetscapes and pedestrian paths to access downtown from adjacent neighborhoods, and to establish a mix of uses that will create a unique identity and support the needs of users of a variety of ages and income levels.

"Redevelopment of South Elm Street is a key step in the continued progress with downtown's reemergence and capitalizes on the investment in the surrounding neighborhoods," says City Manager Mitch Johnson. "The South Elm Street project acts as a catalyst for the City by changing the dynamic of downtown and spurring investment in this overlooked area," says Dan Curry, South Elm Street Project Manager and Development Manager in the City's Housing and Community Development Department.

- MORE -

SOUTH ELM STREET MASTER PLANNING PROCESS NEARS COMPLETION
2-2-2-2

The South Elm Street redevelopment project was funded from an array of sources for a total combined assistance of more than \$6 million. The sources of funding for the project are: EPA Grant -\$200,000; HUD Brownfield Economic Development Initiative - \$2 million; Community Development Section 108 Loan - \$3 million; Community Development Block Grant - \$398,000 and City General Fund - \$1.05 million. The South Elm Street project is expected to be complete by 2010. For more information on the brownfield assessment or the South Elm Street project, contact Dan Curry at 373-2751 or visit the project website at www.southelmstreet.com.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to increase the quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment of inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2800 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov.

#